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DEMOCRATIC

GERMAN REPORT

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MIDDLE EAST ROLE FOR WEHRMACHT?

West Germany's Part in Aggression Programme

A group of general staff officers of the West German Wehrmacht made a secret visit to Turkey immediately after the beginning of the American landings in Lebanon, the East Berlin newspaper "Neues Deutschland" reported on August 8th.

The newspaper reported that according to "reliable sources in the West German War Ministry" a group of 12 high officers of the West German Wehrmacht, almost all of them former nazi General Staff officers, had flown to Adana, the main US base in Turkey, immediately after the first American troops had landed in Lebanon. From Adana they travelled on to places near the Irak and Syrian frontier where Turkish troops were being concentrated.

The East Berlin newspaper stated that "the team of officers had the task of discussing on the spot measures which might become necessary as the result of a possible extension of the military action of the US and Britain in the Near East".

Commenting on the report, "Neues Deutschland" stated: "This confirms the assumption made in political circles that Adenauer, in his recent talks with Turkish Prime Minister Menderes, had discussed mainly the stationing of West German troops in Turkey in order to participate in the Anglo-American aggression."

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It will be recalled that West Germany played an important part in the first stage of the American aggression in the Middle East. A large part of the first waves of American troops landed were either drawn from American units stationed in West Germany, or were staged through airports in West Germany. The operation was carried out with the active cooperation of West German ground staff and technical aid. The second waves of American troops, with heavy equipment, were staged into Lebanon from the West German port of Bremen.

On July 21st the Government of the (East) German Democratic Republic protested officially to the West German Government against the open support being given to the Anglo-American intervention. The Government of the German Democratic Republic called on the West German Government to take immediate steps to ensure that no West German troops should participate in any way in the Anglo-American action; to ban the use of West German airfields and other facilities for the invention; and to stop British and American planes flying over West Germany on their way to the Middle East.

In a message to President Nasser of the United Arab Republic on July 22nd, Prime Minister Otto Grotewohl of the German Democratic Republic assured him that the people and government of the German Democratic Republic stood side by side with the Arab peoples in their struggle for national independence. "To our regret we see that the Government of the (West) German Federal Republic is pursuing a policy of support for imperialist aggression" Prime Minister Grotewohl stated. "I can assure you that this policy has nothing in common with the interests and wishes of the entire German people."

The West German Government formally recognised the new Irak Republic on July 30th. One of the main reasons for the recognition was outlined in a dispatch from Bagdad printed in the West Berlin conservative newspaper "Tagesspiegel" on July 30th: "The German businessmen in Irak have sent an urgent telegram to Bonn requesting the German Federal Republic to recognise the new regime in Irak as quickly as possible. The undisguised sympathy shown by our businessmen for the new masters of Irak has good grounds. The revolution, they state, will be a blow at British, French and American competition, and (West) Germany will be able to move into the gap."

"KRUPP TO MAKE A-SHELLS" — West German Report

A special factory to make atomic ammunition will shortly by built in the Ruhr, the West German magazine "Deutsche Information" reported at the end of July. The atomic power station which should provide the raw materials for the atom shells will be built by Krupps, German cannon-kings in the two world wars, the magazine stated.

BOMB-BALLOT FINALLY BARRED

"Poll on Nuclear Weapons Illegal" – W. German Court

The West German Constitutional Court ruled on July 30th that it was illegal to hold a plebiscite on the arming of West Germany with nuclear weapons.

The court decision means that the provinces of Hamburg and Bremen will not be allowed to hold official referendums on the subject.

The background to the court decision was as follows: On March 23rd the Christian Democratic majority in the West German Parliament voted in favour of the equipment of the West German Wehrmacht with nuclear weapons. In the course of the stormy debate which preceded the vote, Chancellor Adenauer claimed that "only the possession of nuclear weapons can guarantee West Germany against the danger of atomic death" and Defence Minister Franz-Josef Strauss said: "We must have a deterrent against the spread of communism. The atom bomb is not immoral."

Following the majority vote in parliament, the Social Democratic opposition moved that the vital question of atomic arms should be submitted to the electorate in a country-wide poll. The Christian Democrats opposed this motion strongly, since public opinion polls had shown that over 80% of the West German population is strongly opposed to nuclear arms for West Germany.

After the defeat of the Social Democratic motion in Parliament, the provincial governments in Hamburg and Bremen, which have Social Democratic majorities, and which enjoy a considerable degree of autonomy, decided to hold local official polls on the subject. The Hamburg Provincial Parliament decided to hold such a poll on June 8th. All voters in the Hamburg district were to be asked to say "yes" or "no" to the following questions:

1. Are you in favour of atomic weapons for the Federal Army?
2. Are you in favour of atomic weapons being stored in the Federal Republic?
3. Are you in favour of the establishment of launching ramps for atomic rockets in the Federal Republic?

Four days after the Hamburg Parliament had decided to hold the poll the West German Government applied to the Constitutional Court for an injunction preventing such a poll from being held, pending a top level decision on the legality of such a poll. The Constitutional Court issued such an injunction, and the Hamburg poll and similar polls planned in Bremen and Hesse were postponed to await the court decision.

On July 30th the West German Constitutional Court handed down its verdict. It ruled that such local polls on nuclear weapons were unconstitutional, declaring that such polls "were directed towards a political end, and obviously intended to generate political pressure."

The court decision was welcomed by the spokesmen of the West German Government. Minister of the Interior Gerhard Schroeder, former nazi storm trooper, stated: "The referenda launched by the opposition in the past few months have seriously endangered the constitution".

Spokesmen of the Social Democratic Party, and of the leaders of the West German Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament commented that despite the court decision the campaign against atom weapons would continue without let-up.

Commenting on the ban, the official "Social Democratic Press Service" stated on August 6th: "The Christian Democrats are now pretending that as a result of the court decision, there is no longer any question about atomic armament. These circles would like to end all public discussion, so that public opinion may be lulled to sleep: but the Social Democrats do not intend to help the government party in this respect. The Social Democratic Party remains a party of peace, and a German policy of peace must preclude the arming of the Federal Army with weapons of mass destruction. Social Democrats will never agree to the equipment of the Federal Army with atomic weapons."

DEMOCRATIC GERMANY PROTESTS WEST GERMAN COMMITMENT

The West German Government has no right to make any international agreements affecting Berlin, an official spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the German Democratic Republic declared on August 6th.

The protest was made in connection with the fact that the West German Government had declared that its ratification of the statute of the International Atomic Energy Authority applied also to Berlin.

"This is a further attempt on the part of the West German Government to integrate Berlin in the West German Federal Republic" the spokesman said. "The West German Government is not entitled to make any declarations concerning Berlin's participation in international agreements, since Berlin is the capital of the German Democratic Republic".

FIRST CYCLOTRON

Democratic Germany's first cyclotron, with an output of 25 million electron volts, was officially unveiled on August 1st at Rossendorf near Dresden, atomic research centre of the German Democratic Republic.

The cyclotron, which was supplied by the Soviet Union, and assembled at Rossendorf by Soviet and German experts, is the largest at present in operation anywhere in Germany.

DOCTORS? NO, MURDERERS

Nazi Concentration Camp Medicos Practice Again in West Germany

Dozens of so-called doctors who murdered opponents of nazism in Hitler's concentration camps are today practising medicine freely in West Germany.

The appalling facts about the reinstatement of these butchers have become public following the protest made recently by the British Medical Association in the case of Frau Herta Oberheuser, former nazi doctor in Ravensbrueck Concentration Camp, and the flight from Germany of Dr Hans Eisele, former camp doctor in Buchenwald Concentration Camp.

Meeting in Birmingham on July 11th, the British Medical Association unanimously condemned the West German authorities for allowing such doctors to practice. The resolution asked the council of the Association to bring the association's views "to the notice of those responsible for this cynical affront to the honour, morals and high ideals of the true practice of medicine throughout the world."

The British Medical Association protest was mainly based upon the case of Herta Oberheuser, who was found guilty by a US court in 1947 of murdering and torturing prisoners in Ravensbrueck Concentration Camp. She was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment, but was soon released, and the West German authorities gave her special facilities to open a practice near Hamburg because she was classified as a "belatedly returned prisoner of war".

The case of Dr Hans Eisele was similar. He was sentenced to death by a US court in 1947 for killing prisoners at Buchenwald Concentration Camp by means of injections, but his sentence was reduced to life imprisonment, and he was released in 1952. The West German authorites awarded him nearly £3000 as compensation, and he established himself in practice in Munich.

In June this year, under the pressure of West German public opinion, the Bavarian authorities made very dilatory efforts to start proceedings against him, but Dr Eisele was warned in time, and fled to Egypt. Following his flight several judicial and police officials were suspended on suspicion of complicity, but they have now all returned to duty following a "warning".

Here are some details of other concentration camp doctors who are practising medicine freely again in West Germany and West Berlin today. Most of them received direct official support and large government loans to enable them to re-open their practices:

Dr Hermann Pook. Today dentist with practice at 56 Hindenburg Damm West Berlin. During the nazi period he was Colonel of the black-uniformed SS, and worked in the Central Administration of the Concentration Camps. He was the originator of the idea that the gold teeth of concentration camp victims should be knocked out and collected to help nazi war effort. After the war he was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment by a US court. Released in 1951, he returned to West Berlin, was immediately "denazified", and ten days later was given permission to open a dental practice.

Professor Erich Hippke. Today practising as doctor in Wilmersdorf, West Berlin. During the war he was in charge of low pressure and freezing experiments in Dachau concentration camp, in the course of which many dozens of prisoners were brutally murdered. On October 1942 he wrote personally to SS Chief Himmler thanking him for the "great help and facilities extended for our experiments in Dachau".

Dr Adolf Pratchl. Today practising as doctor at 5 Lindwurm Strasse, Munich. During the war worked together with Professor Hippke (see above) on experiments on prisoners in Dachau concentration camp.

Dr Siegfried Ruff. Today working for the West German Ministry of Defence on high altitude medicine for flyers. During the war he made experiments in the same field on prisoners in Dachau concentration camp.

Dr Erich Wagner. Today practising as doctor in Lahr, West Germany. During the war worked as doctor in Buchenwald concentration camp, and was directly responsible for the death of hundreds of prisoners. Pressure of public opinion forced the West German police to arrest him, very belatedly, at the beginning of August 1958.

East-German Talks Inevitable, Says Social-Democratic Paper

Sooner or later West German official circles will have to negotiate with the representatives of the German Democratic Republic in the interests of both parts of Germany, the West German magazine "Der Sozialdemokrat", official organ of the Social Democratic Party in Hesse stated in its August issue.

The article is particularly notable since hitherto the official Social Democratic attitude has been opposed to negotiations with the Government of Democratic Germany. Here are some of the main points from the article in "Der Sozialdemokrat":

"If you want to, you can refuse to recognise the existence of the second German state, just as you can ignore the existence of the fact that at present about 950 million people live in the countries of the communist state system, while about 500 million people live in the non-communist states. But anyone who takes this attitude . . . has no claim to be regarded seriously as a politician.

"The Soviet Russian leadership has shown very clearly . . . that it does not intend to regard the existence of the German Democratic Republic as an object for political negotiations. This means that despite the difficulties and reverses, the German Democratic Republic, under the leadership of the Socialist Unity Party, will become stabilised.

"Whatever one may feel about the German Democratic Republic and its leadership, it is becoming necessary to get used to the idea that it will be necessary tomorrow to negotiate with the representatives of this state . . . in the interests of the people who live in the two German states, and in order to lay the foundations for the bridge which must be built between the two states."

PRODUCTION UP AGAIN

Emphasis on Consumer Goods

Industrial production in the German Democratic Republic was nearly 12% up in the first half of 1958 compared to the production in the first half of 1957, it was officially announced in Berlin on August 8th.

This big increase was very considerably larger than had been originally planned. The economic plan for 1958 called for an increase of 107.7% in production: the actual increase was 11.7%. At the same time, productivity per worker increased by 9.6%.

A notable feature of the production increases was that the biggest surge forward was achieved in the field of consumer goods which make a direct and immediate impact on the standard of living. Here are a few examples of production figures for the first half of 1958, with the figures for the same period in 1957 in brackets:

Refrigerators:	23,336 (11,697)
TV sets:	81,224 (44,398)
Portable radios:	24,553 (10,021)
Motor scooters:	10,150 (7,600)
Children's outerwear (in thousand marks):	81,902 (51,204)

At the same time the plan report recorded that production of soft coal, the most important raw material produced in the Democratic Republic, was lagging behind the targets set. The lag was only just over one percent, but complete fulfillment of the plan in this sector is extremely important, as soft coal is one of the main raw materials used in the chemical and plastics industries.

Commenting on the plan report, "Neues Deutschland" the central organ of the Socialist Unity Party, stated on August 9th: "The figures which have just been published on the fulfillment of the economic plan for the first six months of 1958 speak volumes. These figures prove that the great perspective shown by the 5th Party Congress of the Socialist Unity Party was not simply something imaginary, but that it had a solid foundation.

"These figures show that ten factory workers, thanks to better working methods and better techniques, are today producing as much as was produced by eleven workers only six months ago. Life itself has confirmed the policy decided upon by the 5th Party Congress. We shall now forge ahead at such speed that by 1961 we have overtaken West Germany in the consumption of the important foodstuffs and consumer goods."

Un-American Panda in Berlin

Chi-Chi, the famous un-American panda, is at present showing off her tricks in the new East Berlin zoo.

The panda, one of the only four in capitivity, was purchased in China by a German animal importer acting on instructions from the Chicago Zoo. After bringing the panda to Germany, the importer discovered that the animal could not be sent on to Chicago, because of the embargo on imports from the Chinese People's Republic. While John Foster Dulles is tackling the weighty problem of deciding whether Chi-Chi is a threat to the security of the United States, the panda is enjoying a tour of European zoos. She has already been shown in Frankfurt, West Germany, and Antwerp, Belgium.

Democratic Germany & Geophysical Year

Scientists from the German Democratic Republic are playing their full part in all sections of the work done in the framework of the International Geophysical Year, Professor Horst Philipps, secretary of the Democratic Republic's IGY Committee, stated in an interview.

Apart from their work on such problems as meteorology, cosmic rays and geo-magnetism, the scientists of the Democratic Republic have been doing a lot of work in the Sputnik observation programme, and groups from the Democratic Republic have taken part in a Soviet oceangraphic expedition, and two glacialogical expeditions in the Soviet Union.

In the congresses of the International Geophysical Year the German Democratic Republic has full equal rights with all the other participating nations.

Living Standards: East and West

The German Democratic Republic has set itself the task of catching up with and overtaking West Germany in the standard of living by 1961. In many classes of consumer goods this will demand a very rapid expansion, since Democratic Germany still lags in these fields, but in per capita consumption of the main foodstuffs there is not very much difference between the two German states. Here, in kilogrammes, are the consumption per head in 1957 of main foodstuffs, as shown in the official statistics of the two German states:

	East Germany	West Germany
Butter	8.3	7.2
Milk	95.1	103.0
Margarine	10.0	12.7
Fats (total)	26.5	25.4
Meat	45.5	50.2
Sugar	27.4	28.3
Eggs (units)	163.0	182.0

Eigth Ministries Closed Down

Eight ministries in the Government of the German Democratic Republic were officially closed down on July 31st. They were the Ministries for Mines, Chemical Industry, Coal and Power, Heavy Engineering, General Engineering, Light Industry, Foodstuffs Industry, and Labour.

The decision to dissolve the ministries had been taken by the People's Chamber on February 11th as part of a decentralisation campaign planned to abolish detailed governmental control of all stages of industry and agriculture, and to place more responsibility in the hands of the nationalised factories and the local authorities.

LETTER FROM A SLAVE WORKER

Soviet Girl Recalls Dark Days of Second World War

During the Second World War, the Germans deported millions of men and women from occupied Europe to Germany, where they had to work as slave labours under the most frightful conditions.

Nazi racial ideology, aided by Gestapo repression, had such a strong hold over most of the German people that the great majority of the slave workers were ostracised, bullied and persecuted even by the German workers who should have been their allies.

There were exceptions, however, and on these pages we want to tell you about one such exception.

A short while ago the magazine "DDR", which is published in the German Democratic Republic in German, Russian, Chinese, Polish and Czech editions, received a letter from a reader in Sevastopol in the Soviet Union. Here is the letter:

"Dear Editor,

Please write an article on the life and the work of the people of Grossbreitenbach in the Thuringian Forest. In 1943, at the age of 14, I was brought to this little town. In the factory where I had to work I came together with German workers who tried to make our lot easier.

"Is there still a branch of the Siemens factory there? It was in this factory that I began to work under the direction of the clever and considerate foreman Grossmann.

"How is Frau Schimack? Are her twins, who were born in April 1945, doing well? What are my former friends Waldemar, Horst, and Walter today. Are they still true to their ideals of the Red Front?

"I am a Russian, now 28 years old. I have completed my studies in shipbuilding, and am now working as a machine construction engineer.

Yours,
Toni Chuggreyeva."

On receipt of this letter, Arnold Hoffmann, editor of the magazine "DDR", set out to find the answers to Miss Chuggreyeva's questions. Here is his reply, printed in the May number of his magazine:

Dear Miss Chuggreyeva,

Your letter caused considerable excitement in our office. It reminded us that even in the darkest days of fascism there were still people in Germany who tried to work against race hatred and mass murder, even in a small and seemingly unimportant way.

With your letter and photograph in my pocket I travelled to Grossbreitenbach and although I had never been there before I was eager

Miss Chuggreyeva, former Soviet slave worker

to see what changes had taken place in this little mountain town during the last thirteen years.

I actually met some of the people you wrote about. Foreman Grossmann, for instance, still works in the same factory, or rather in the enterprise which has taken the place of the former branch of Siemens-Halske — for we got rid of the Siemens concern some years ago here in the German Democratic Republic.

(Above) Foreman Grossman, who helped Soviet slave workers during the war. (Left) Walter Grimm, communist factory worker, with his family.

Things have changed in the factory itself, too. Siemens employed German workers and foreign forced labourers like yourself to make altitude instruments for the nazi Luftwaffe during the war. Today the nationally owned RFT works which has taken its place employs 500 men and women workers to produce telephone parts. The old factory buildings are only a small part of the present factory, which has expanded to include a former porcelain factory on the neighbouring site.

Facilities for the workers — factory kitchen, canteen and showerbaths — were built for the first time, and there is also a factory general store. Special buses bring the workers to and from the factory.

Foreman Grossmann works in this new factory as inspector. He well remembers the days when you were here and he thinks he can even remember you personally.

"We could do so little for the Russian girls then", he told me. "All we could manage was to smuggle them an occasional piece of bread or a bowl of soup, or whisper the latest news from Moscow radio."

He was deeply touched that you still remember him, and was so pleased to hear that you are now an engineer.

But then he turned to the girls who were standing around us and said: "Those girls were just like you are today, clever and anxious to learn. They made plans for the future, just like you — only in Russian, not in German. So Hitler wanted to wipe them out..."

Foreman Grossmann will write to you himself and tell you about his life and his family.

Bernhard Fischer is one of those who remember you. "We had to go into the wood to cut down trees one day" he told me, "and the girls were supposed to carry the heavy logs. But we carried them instead and this nearly got us into serious trouble too. A nazi who saw us threatened to denounce us for helping them."

Fischer is now secretary of the Socialist Unity Party group in the factory.

On my last evening I met Walter Grimm — the Walter you mention in your letter. He remembers you, too, and the times when he and his friends tried to set up a permanent contact with your group. He will write to you about himself and his family. As I was leaving, he took his Socialist Unity Party membership card out of his pocket.

"Tell her that I have remained true to my ideal" he said.

All I could find out about Frau Schimack is that she married again after the war and moved to Mecklenburg. Her first husband was killed in the war and the twins died.

I hope you will soon get letters from the others and that this will be the beginning of a new friendship with you in Sevastopol.

Young Artists' Festival

By a Correspondent

When I heard that the Young Artists' Festival was to be held this year in the club halls of the biggest works in the German Democratic Republic — Leuna, Buna, Agfa Wolfen and the Electro-Chemical Combine in Bitterfeld — all sorts of doubts flitted through my mind.

The biggest of these was that top-notch visiting ensembles such as the internationally known Moisseyev Ensemble, and stars of all nationalities always make a point of performing at the big plants. So I had visions of workers, used to the very best, being highly critical of our youngsters.

What I hadn't realised was that that was exactly the idea — that and the breaking down of the barriers existing between artists and workers.

Four main towns in the Republic — Berlin, Leipzig, Dresden and Weimar — sent students from the Academies of Music, Dancing, Acting and the Applied Arts, and presented a mixed programme.

About a thousand young people were involved, all of whom had to be fed, housed and transported. As far as an outsider could judge, it functioned well. Meals served in the comfortable Leuna Club restaurant were excellent, at any rate.

I shall not attempt here to describe the programmes, expect to say that each included an orchestral performance (Beethoven and Shostakovich were among the composers chosen); a choir singing working class and folk songs, soloists, ballet dancing and theatrical sketches.

The days were crammed with activities, for in addition to the programmes there were talks between workers and artists over the factory radio ("not longer than six minutes, please, because they just won't listen if it goes on too long", talks with the factory newspaper people (Leuna, which I saw, has beautiful newspaper offices with a full-time staff), performances at a newspaper festival during the weekend in Halle, where they had organised fashion shows, all kinds of entertainments, roundabouts, an agricultural machinery exhibition, parachute jumping, hot dogs and so on — much more than you could possibly see in one afternoon.

And although I know that much has been written about the workers' clubs in the German Democratic Republic, I would like to make one comment — even some London theatres would be envious of the magnificent stages in these club halls, with their modern technical equipment.

In order to pool the experiences of the festival and to discuss future plans, an all-day sitting of the Free German Youth organisation was held during the weekend. There was some pretty plain speaking and it was easy to see that a few complacent — not to say arrogant — youngsters got a bit of a jolting when they heard the often shrewd and intelligent criticism of the workers.

You have to remember that over 90 per cent of the students get scholarships and many of them live in modern hostels, get reduced prices for all sorts of facilities and in general are looked after quite well, so that the workers feel they have every right to say how their taxes should be spent.

Some of the points brought up were lack of humour in the make-up of programmes (aren't we ever supposed to laugh under Socialism?), too much emphasis on the fight to build a new world and not enough on the joys of doing. Incidentally, you have only to see what they have got in Leuna — this criticism came from a Leuna worker — to appreciate the accomplishments.

The programmes could include more music. Mozart was mentioned as an example. And then there was quite a different sort of criticism — the noticeable difference between what the artist portrayed on the stage and his behaviour when going round the works. The same speaker had the hall in an uproar about the fancy beards and haircuts of the more "aesthetic" young artists. There had been a good deal of discussion among the workers who felt that these youngsters isolated themselves and had an arrogant attitude to everything "ordinary", including ordinary work.

But still, the general impression was that a good beginning has been made in bringing artists — especially actors and musicians — nearer to their audiences.

You Ask — We Answer

PRICES AFTER RATIONING ENDED

How do people manage now that rationing has been abolished in East Germany? — A. P., Plymouth.

Perhaps the best way to answer this is to take a leaf out of the housekeeping book of an average working class family. The family in question is called Krosinski and they have three children over nine years of age. Herr Krosinski is a master baker in a state-owned bakery, earning 520 marks a month; his wife works in the nationally owned "Stern" radio factory and earns 450 marks a month.

The figures on the left compare the old ration prices and the new standard prices for the total amounts of rationed foodstuffs to which the family was entitled. Those on the right compare the "free" prices with the new standard prices. These are the full amounts of rationed foods and supplementary purchases of foodstuffs which the Krosinski's have been buying each month for the past year or so.

		Ration prices	New
2½ kg	butter	11.00	24.00
3½ kg	lard & marg.	8.40	12.00
1½ kg	smoked pork	5.30	13.20
1½ kg	tripe	1.00	2.30
1 kg	minced meat	2.00	6.60
1 kg	pork	3.20	8.40
½ kg	frying sausage	1.80	4.00
1 kg	pork chops	1.50	4.40
½ kg	Brunswick sausage coarse	2.00	4.40
½ kg	Brunswick sausage fine	1.80	3.70
½ kg	Fat bacon	2.00	4.75
½ kg	Beefsteak	1.40	5.10
8½ kg	sugar	10.20	15.30
7½ litres	milk	2.10	6.00
		53.90	114.15

		"Free" prices	New
1½ kg	butter	30.00	14.40
2 kg	lard	11.20	8.80
2 kg	best marg.	15.20	10.00
2½ kg	cooking marg.	9.00	5.00
½ kg	pork cheese	3.20	1.15
½ kg	pork chops	5.60	4.40
½ kg	minced meat	3.30	3.30
½ kg	tripe	4.10	2.30
1 kg	Brunswick sausage coarse	14.40	8.40
1 kg	Brunswick sausage fine	13.60	7.40
1 kg	Fat bacon	20.70	9.50
1 kg	Bacon fat	7.50	4.30
2 kg	sugar	6.00	3.60
15 litres	milk	16.80	12.00
½ kg	chopped meat	5.60	4.00
½ kg	Bockwurst	6.20	4.00
1 kg	Thuringer sausage	9.80	4.50
½ kg	liver sausage	6.10	3.35
1 kg	blood sausage	2.40	1.30
		191.90	111.70

A simple sum shows that the family now pays only 225.85 marks for foodstuffs which cost 245.80 marks before rationing was ended. Actually the position is even more favourable today, since pork and milk have been further reduced in price since the above figures were compiled.

Fixed expenditure, such as rent, heating, light and staple foods like bread and potatoes have remained the same in price and a number of consumer goods, such as bed linen have been considerably reduced in price. The Krosinski's also receive 20 marks a month per child to cover extra expenditure on milk and butter at the higher prices, and they have both received small monthly increases in their wages. So that there is no doubt that they are better off than before.

Those who will not be better off are people with higher incomes who are not classed as employees — craftsmen, private business people, freelance writers, artists and journalists and so on. All free-lancers will pay more income tax, 20 per cent instead of 14 per cent, and scaled upwards when the income exceeds 20,000 marks a year. A very proper measure; the express purpose of the new wage and taxation regulations was to reduce the difference between the highest and the lowest incomes. In line with this, the workers with very low incomes have received the largest increase in wages.

There is, however, one group which will only break about even; the old-age pensioners. These have had to live very sparingly and the increase (9 marks in the Republic and 12 marks in Berlin where expenses are somewhat higher) will only just cover the increased off-ration prices for the very modest purchases which pensioners can make. But of course they benefit by all other price reductions.

Monthly expenses compared	E. Germany	W. Germany
Rent (65 sq. yds.)	32—55 marks	78—137 marks
Gas (25 cubic m.)	4 marks	8 marks
Electricity 40 kwh (inc. fixed charge)	4.70 marks	9.60 marks
Tram ticket	20 pf.	30—50 pf.
Railway weekly season ticket (30 km)	3.80 marks	9.80 marks
Rye bread (1 kg)	60 pf.	85 pf.
White roll	5 pf.	7 pf.
Health insurance on 400 marks monthly income	10 per cent	12.5 per cent

No Protection For W. German Young Workers

80,000 young workers in West German bakeries and butcheries are not protected by contract, writes "Welt der Arbeit", West German trade union paper, on July 4th 1958.

Guenter Doeding, of the West German food, confectionery and restaurant workers' union reported at the union's youth congress that in Hessen about a quarter of all bakery and butchery apprentices work 54 hours a week; young helpers who are not recognised apprentices often work more than 60 hours a week.

Restaurants in Bavaria expect young waiters and waitresses to work ten to fourteen hours a day; in one cafe young people are on duty till 3 in the morning. A case was reported of a bakery apprentice who has to work from 2 in the morning till 3 o'clock in the afternoon and again from 6 till 7 o'clock in the evening, and of two apprentices who have not had a single free day in two years.

In many Hamburg restaurants girls of fourteen and fifteen have to serve at night and are allowed to appear as dancing girls.

In a bakery in Lower Saxony a case was reported of boys under 16 working 83 hours a week. They had to eat their breakfast standing up and got only ten minutes off for their midday meal. Another apprentice had to work from 4 o'clock in the morning to 11 o'clock at night.

BERLIN NOTEBOOK

By John Peet

In 1944 a certain Heinz Reinefarth, general of Hitler's SS terror troops, commanded the nazi forces which suppressed, with unsurpassed brutality, the Warsaw rising.

In 1952 the same Heinz Reinefarth was elected mayor of Sylt, a West German coastal town.

In 1957 the East German film company DEFA made a documentary film about the ex-general, using clippings from nazi newsreels, copies of nazi documents proving General Reinefarth's complicity, and a filmed interview with Mayor Reinefarth.

On May 8th this year, Associated Rediffusion, the British Commercial TV Company, planned to show the film on TV. At the last moment the showing of the film was cancelled.

The London "Daily Express", commenting on the cancellation, said it had been decided after talks with the British Foreign Office. "The film shows brutal scenes of the Nazi occupation of Poland . . . It was felt that the film could be a diplomatic embarrassment . . ."

Now there has been a parliamentary exchange on the subject. On July 14th, Stephen Swingler, Labour M. P. for Newcastle-under-Lyme asked the Foreign Secretary who had been responsible for the cancellation of the TV showing.

Mr A. Noble, Minister of State, Foreign Office, said that at the invitation of Associated Rediffusion, two Foreign Office officials attended a showing of the film on May 5th. "The Foreign Office officials explained to the company that the film — made by the East German authorities — contained deliberate distortions of historical fact in order to serve the purposes of Communist propaganda."

Now that is the point I want to get at. What are these alleged "deliberate distortions of historical fact"?

There is ample documentary evidence that SS General Reinefarth was in fact in charge of the nazi forces which suppressed the Warsaw rising in blood, and part of this evidence is shown in the film: the DEFA film company has repeatedly offered to make the original documents available for inspection. There is no dispute about the fact that Herr Reinefarth is today Mayor of Sylt in West Germany. That is all that is charged by this short documentary film: where is the distortion?

British readers, incidentally, may be interested to know that they can easily arrange to see the film and decide for themselves whether the Minister of State was guilty of a terminological inexactitude. They can hire the film, which is entitled "Holiday on Sylt" at a very reasonable price from Plato Films Ltd., 18 Greek Street, London W. 1. It is available on 16 mm film with an English commentary.

(Just before we went to press came the news that the Ministry of Justice of Schleswig-Holstein has been forced to open an investigation of the Reinefarth case, basing itself on the documents publicised in the documentary film. We shall keep readers informed on the progress of the investigations.)

The same people who made the film about Reinefarth, Andrew and Annelie Thorndike, have made a full length documentary about nazi general Speidel, who now commands the NATO Land Forces in Central Europe. This film too, which throws a sinister light on the general's former activities, will soon be available with English commentary from Plato Films in London. It is entitled "Operation Teutonic Sword", and in my opinion every reader of GERMAN REPORT ought to make an effort to get it shown in his locality.

But even if you cannot get the film, you can write in for copies of the special number of GERMAN REPORT based upon the script of the film. We still have plenty of copies available, and will be glad to send any reader a bundle for free distribution.

* * *

The old nazis in West Germany are not simply just back in positions of great power: they are also hard at work popularising their revived expansionist philosophy.

This week I should like to tell you something about a new book which has just appeared on the West German bookstalls. The book is entitled "Die deutschen Truempfe" (Germany's Trumps). It has been written by a man named Johannes F. Barnick, and is published by Heinrich Seewald in Stuttgart. In his book Herr Barnick preaches, amongst other things, that the only way to achieve the reunification of Germany is by means of a Third World War.

That would be bad enough if the book was one of the hole-and-corner products of the lunatic fringe which exists in most countries: but Herr Barnick's book has been warmly greeted by very prominent West German personalities.

Professor Pascual Jordan, Christian Democratic member of the West German parliament stated: "This is a book of unusual mental liveliness. The reader receives many valuable suggestions." Dr Reinhold Maier, president of the Free Democratic Party, West Germany's third largest party, stated: "The large number of concrete suggestions make this book very profitable reading".

Those are just two examples of the warm welcome given to the book. Now to the contents.

The main theme is that the reunification of the two existing German states would be no solution of the German problem. What is needed, he argues, is the inclusion in the new Germany, by means of a Third World War, of the whole of Austria, half of Switzerland, more than half of Czechoslovakia, a large part of Poland, and a small sector of the Soviet Union.

The author claims that all these countries are inhabited by Germans, explaining, for instance "Czechs are typical eastern Germans, who merely do not speak German".

And as I have already said, he is ready to launch a new World War to achieve his aim: "To put it quite frankly, the Third World War is the only possible way of solving the problem of German reunification . . . The Soviet Union knows that in the final analysis, even the poor improvised (West) German Federal Repulic could finish off."

In order to get ready for the coming war, Herr Barnick suggests the following recipe for West Germany: "Abolish mass democracy, abolish the general franchise, abolish secret elections, abolish equal rights for women . . . We need an authoritarian West Germany in which everything has been relentlessly sacrificed to rearmament."

Responsible West German papers have reviewed the book in glowing terms. The "Westdeutsche Allgemeine", for instance, stated in a book review on May 29th: "Barnick presents us with the tasks facing the Federal Republic now and in the coming years . . . The great value of the book lies in the fact it proves to us that we Germans in the West cannot avoid our manifest destany". Did I hear anyone murmuring "Mein Kampf"?

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